Newsletter of the North American Mycological Association

THE MYCOPHILE

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# 49th Foray Revels Held on Gulf Coastal Plain

One hundred ten participants from 28 states as well as Puerto Rico, Québec, and France attended the NAMA/GSMS 2009 Foray November 26–29 in Lafayette, Louisiana.

**Microscopy Workshop:** Prior to the start of the Foray—from Sunday through Thursday—Walt Sundburg (Southern Illinois U, Emeritus) and Andrew Methven (Eastern Illinois U) led a Microscopy Workshop. Ten enthusiasts of varying skills learned a lot and had a great time—naturally!

The 49th Foray offered a variety of foray trips and presentations for NAMA and Gulf States Mycological Society (GSMS) members to attend.

**Foray Trips:** On Friday, 27 participants took all-day trips to the Louisiana State Arboretum and adjacent Chicot State Park. The sites are only a few miles from each other in Evangeline Parish, about 50 miles northwest of Lafayette. Heinz and Julie Gaylord led the trips; Bart Buyck and Jay Justice served as Foray Mycologists.

Arboretum curator Kim Hollier escorted the group to the Walker Branch and Wetland Trail, a loop of roughly three miles, which is one of the shorter trails available. The area collected in was mainly mixed pine and hardwood forest, with oaks, beech, loblolly pine, hickory, maple etc. with more topographic relief than the coastal areas.

Here's a sample of some of the fungi the group collected: *Amanita polypyramis, Armillaria tabescens, Laccaria ochropurpurea, Lycoperdon pyriformis, Xerula farfuracea, Lepiota aspera, Pleurotus ostreatus, Hygrophorus roseobrunneus, Hypholoma fasciculare, Cantharellus tabernensis, Ganoderma lucidum, Stereum complicatum, Stereum ostrea,*

David Lewis accepts the 2009 NAMA Award for Contributions to Amateur Mycology at the Lafayette Foray.

*Trametes nivosa, Trametes menziesii, Trichaptum sector, Trichaptum biforme, Schizophyum commune, Arbortiporus biennis,* and *Daedaleopsis confragosa.*

In the northern portion of Chicot State Park the ecology comprises cypress, tupelo, mature hardwood uplands with some beech-magnolia forest. A sample of some of the fungi collected at this site: *Amanita citrina, Russula rubescens, Russula silvicola, Lactarius paradoxus, Cantharellus appalachiensis, Armillaria tabescens, Hypholoma fasciculare, Hypomyces luteovirens, Clitocybe nuda, Scleroderma texense, Xylobolus subpileatus,* and *Stereum ostrea.*

On Saturday Heinz and Julie Gaylord and Julia O'Neill led 38 participants on a half-day trip to the Longfellow–Evangeline State Historical Site, near St. Martinville in St. Martin Parish, along the banks of Bayou Teche, about 30 minutes east of Lafayette. The Foray Mycologist was Juan Luis Mata.

Most people enjoyed the historical Acadian Village and information on the history, culture, and lifestyles of both the Acadian and Creole people of the area. Collecting was very sparse along the banks of Bayou Teche and the closely mowed meadows and gardens. Numerous collections of *Armallaria tabescens* were found by the huge live-oaks.

Additional destinations included the Lake Martin property of the Nature Conservancy and the Heartwood–Antoinette DeBosier property, all in the Lafayette area.

**Presentations:** From "Evaluation of Fossil Myxomycetes in Amber" (H. Keller) to "AOK ID W/DNA PCR ASAP, LOL: Modern Methods in Mushroom Systematics" (T. Volk), participants enjoyed a wide spectrum of informative and entertaining presentations.

Presenters included Dr. M. Catherine Aime (LSU), Dr. Charles Allen (Colorado State), Dr. Meredith Blackwell (LSU), Dr. Bart Buyck

*Continued on page 4*

## In This Issue

*President's Message* ..... 2
*Foray Colorado in 2010!* ..... 3
*NAMA Endowment Fund* ..... 3
*50th Anniversary Request* ..... 3
*Award Winners* ..... 4–5
*Update on* McIlvainea ..... 5
*Mushroom of the Month* ..... 8

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

IT IS A GREAT PRIVILEGE to have the opportunity to oversee NAMA for the next few years. NAMA is an extraordinarily fine organization, and I intend to maintain its wonderful traditions and, I hope, even make some improvements in its activities and programs to meet the needs and expectations of members with respect to their membership benefits.

The recent foray in Lafayette was a great success and ran without a hitch thanks to the hard work and foresight of David and Patricia Lewis and the Gulf States Mycological Society.

At this year's Trustee's Meeting the following three new officers were elected: John Plischke III as 1st Vice President, Linnea Gillman as Secretary, and I as President. The Trustees appointed Bruce Eberle as the new Executive Secretary. Adele Mehta continues as 2nd Vice President, Ann Bornstein as Membership Secretary, and Judith McCandless as Treasurer. Each of these team members is well qualified and is sure to make many positive contributions to NAMA's administration.

We owe many thanks to Ike Forester for his leadership over the past six years. During that time NAMA often faced challenges. Under Ike's leadership each hurdle was overcome, and the organization prospered. Well done, Ike! Fortunately I have been able to persuade Ike to continue to be an integral part of the NAMA leadership by serving on the Executive Committee as one of the three trustees appointed by the President. This important committee, composed of the officers and the three appointed trustees, manages the affairs of NAMA when the Board of Trustees is not in session. Region VIII Trustee Patricia Lewis will remain on the committee, and Region IV Trustee Patrice Benson has agreed to join the committee as the third trustee member. As in the case of the officers, the talent and dedication of each trustee member guarantee our organization's ongoing success.

Good news: this year THE MYCOPHILE will return to its regular delivery schedule thanks to the fact that Bruce, in addition to his many duties as Executive Secretary, will also be the editor of that publication. And as a result of Michael Beug's efforts, *McIlvainea* will also be available on a regular basis on the NAMA web page. Both publications are among the best in their fields; and with Bruce and Michael at their respective helms, that standing will be maintained.

The 2010 Annual NAMA Foray will be its 50th (the first having taken place in Portsmouth, Ohio, in 1961). The foray this year will be held on August 12–15 in Colorado, hosted by the Colorado Mycological Society (CMS). The chosen foray site is the Snow Mountain Ranch at Winter Park, located about 70 miles west of Denver. The CMS did an excellent job of managing the 1997 foray, which was held at Copper Mountain; weather conditions that year cooperated by providing a considerable amount of rain just prior to the foray, and the mushrooms were abundant—particularly *Boletus edulis*. Hopefully, we will have similar good luck this summer in Colorado and enjoy a productive foray as well participating in the activities and programs planned to celebrate the Semi-centennial. I encourage each and every member who can possibly make it to plan on attending and I hope to see you there! —*Bob Fulgency*

### *Moving?*

**Please** send your new address, ***two weeks*** before you move, to

Ann Bornstein
NAMA Membership Secretary
61 Devon Court
Watsonville, CA 95076-1160
annstitcher@charter. net

***Otherwise***—you may not be getting your newsletter for a while. Each issue, several *Mycophiles* are returned as undeliverable because of no forwarding address on file. NAMA is charged ***seventy cents*** for each returned or forwarded newsletter.

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NAMA is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Contributions to support the scientific and educational activities of the Association are always welcome and may be deductible as allowed by law. Gifts of any amount may be made for special occasions, such as birthdays and anniversaries, and for memorials.

Special categories include
Friend of NAMA: $500–900
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Patron: $5000 and up

Send contributions to
Judith McCandless, Treasurer
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# Your Opportunity to Vacation in Colorado's High Country

The Colorado Mycological Society is delighted to welcome NAMA members to the Centennial State for NAMA's 50th Anniversary Foray, August 12–15, 2010. The foray will be held at the same location as the memorable 1983 foray: YMCA of the Rockies Snow Mountain Ranch. It is 14 miles from Winter Park, seven miles from Granby (Colorado), high on the western slope of the Continental Divide at 8,500 ft. Coincidentally, Rocky Mountain National Park is celebrating its 95th anniversary this year, and at least one of our forays is planned to study fungi in that area.

A number of the country's top mycologists, professional and amateur, have agreed to attend and make presentations. You'll probably have difficulty choosing which to attend. One of the most important reasons to take part in these forays is the opportunity, even for novices, to learn from these experts. And, of course, you will be able to foray in carefully selected areas with knowledgeable leaders.

For family members who may not share your enthusiasm for fungi, there are innumerable activities nearby. A favorite choice is to take the Zephyr Scenic Lift up the mountain. Once at the top, you can either hike down, mushrooming on the way, or ride back in comfort to the base. You may choose to buy a Zephyr Express Pass, which includes unlimited use of the Alpine Slide, mini-golf, Zephyr Express scenic chairlift, human maze, outdoor climbing wall, GyroXtreme, and Leaps & Bounds Bungee. For more information about the area see Snow Mountain Ranch (www.ymcarockies.org/home/our-locations/snow-mountain-ranch), www.skiwinterpark.com, www.winterparkgov.com, or www.winterpark-info.com. For answers to questions about the Foray, e-mail NAMA50th@gmail.com.

Make plans now to join us in the Rockies in August. We promise you'll enjoy it, but we can't promise you'll find the tons of chanterelles we found in '83. That was probably a once-in-a-lifetime event, but stranger mycological things have happened. That's one of the reasons we love fungi, isn't it? They never fail to keep us guessing!

**REGISTRATION**

**The registration form is here**: http://cmsweb.org/nama2010registration.htm. The fee for the foray is $150.00, and room and board at the YMCA Snow Mountain Ranch ranges from $124.50 per person for all three days, if there are six in a room, to $297.00 for one in a room. All rooms can sleep six. All the details and information about camping and motels in the area are on our registration site. **The YMCA is reserving a block of rooms at this rate until June 15.**

**Registration:**
**http://cmsweb.org/nama2010registration.htm**

**A SPECIAL REQUEST**

***In preparation for the 50th Annual Foray, members are asked to search their photos and memories of past NAMA Forays and to share them with the Executive Secretary for use in celebrating NAMA's 50th Anniversary.***

# *The NAMA Endowment Fund*

The NAMA Endowment Fund was initiated a few years ago to generate scholarship support for a deserving mycology student selected by the Mycological Society of America.

Eventually, we want to grow the fund sufficiently so it will provide a $2,000 yearly scholarship. Prior to the 49th Annual Foray held in Lafayette, Louisiana, the Endowment was valued at approximately $30,000.

The NAMA Endowment recently received contributions from Esther Bates in memory of her husband, Martin Bates, a longtime NAMA member; Sergio and Wanda Henao, in honor of David and Patricia Lewis; and Sergio and Wanda Henao, in honor of Jay Justice on the occasion of his birthday.

In addition, the Endowment received $1,028 from the silent auction at the Foray in Lafayette, and another $775 directly from members and trustees at that fine event.

We are currently accepting pledges and checks made out to NAMA with "Endowment Fund" noted at the bottom. Please send any Endowment contributions to Judith McCandless, NAMA Treasurer, 330 Wildwood Place, Louisville, KY 40205-2523.

Lake Martini

**Report of the 2009 NAMA/GMS Foray,** cont. from p. 1

(National Museum of Natural History, Paris, France), Jay Justice, Dr. Matthew Keirle (State College of Florida), Dr. Harold Keller (Botanical Research Institute of Texas), Dr. Patrick Leacock (Field Museum), D. Jean Lodge (U.S. Forest Service, Puerto Rico), Dr. Juan Luis Mata (U of South Alabama), Dr. Andrew Methven (Eastern Illinois U), Dr. Clark Ovrebo (U of Central Oklahoma), John Plischke III, Ursula Pohl, Dr. Samir A. Ross (U of Mississippi), David Rust, Ron Spinosa, Walt Sturgeon, Dr. Walter Sundberg (Southern IL U, Emeritus), Dr. Rodham Tulloss and Dr. Tom Volk (U of Wisconsin–LaCrosse).

**Mycophagy:** The Mycophagy Committee, chaired by Ursula Pohl, prepared an excellent feast featuring pickled, fried, sautéed, and baked mushrooms.

**Identifications and Vouchering:** We made our identifications under the expert guidance of Co-Chief Mycologists Dr. Juan Luis Mata and Dr. Clark Ovrebo, with help from numerous other experts present. Although the species count was not high, we did find about 170 species and nine lichens. We also encountered many tropical fungi seldom seen by Northerners, including *Auricularia polytricha, Cymatoderma caperatum, Fomes fasciatus, Hexagonia hydnoides, Microporellus dealbatus, Nigroporus vinosus, Polyporus tenuiculus, Pseudofavolus cucullatus, Trametes nivosa,* and *Trametes menziesii.*

Patrick Leacock, chair of the NAMA Voucher Preservation Committee, believes the Foray added about 40 new records to the NAMA master species list—not bad considering our low total. [*Note: A complete list of species will be made available in a future issue. —Editor*]

The Voucher Preservation Committee hosted three graduate students: Allison Walker, U of Southern Mississippi; Paul Scott, Mississippi State U ; and Matt Foltz, U of Wisconsin–LaCrosse.

**Keynotes:** Dr. M. Catherine Aime of LSU (Friday) and Dr. Bart Buyck of the National Museum of Natural History, Paris, France (Saturday) gave excellent keynote presentations. The final banquet included musical entertainment by Payton Wilson, Ben Rauch, and Julie Gaylord,with original mushroom lyrics by Payton Wilson.

**NAMA Award for Contributions to Amateur Mycology 2009:** This award is is given annually to recognize a person who has contributed extraordinarily to the advancement of amateur mycology. According to Gary Lincoff, Chair of the Awards Committee, in a development unlike any in recent memory, this year's winner received a vote on every ballot cast by the former NAMA Award winners.

Dr. Rolf Singer referred to this year's winner as "an up-and-coming amateur mycologist" with whom he has been working at the Field Museum in Chicago. Even after 30 years in the field, the honoree is a tireless worker, an endlessly enthusiastic promoter of all things fungal, and one of the warmest, most generous, and least self-aggrandising individuals on the face of the Earth.

The 2009 NAMA Award for Contributions to Amateur Mycology went to DAVID LEWIS.

**The 2009 NAMA President's Outstanding Service Award:** This award is given by the President to an individual who has made substantial contributions to the organization. The year's President's Award was given to DAVID RUST, NAMA Webmaster, for his work on the NAMA website.

Ike Forester (right), NAMA President, congratulates David Rust, winner of the 2009 President's Outstanding Service Award.

Joyce Gross
2009 Knighton Award Winner

**The Harry and Elsie Knighton Service Award for 2009:** This award, established by the NAMA Board of Trustees, recognizes and encourages persons who have distinguished themselves in service to their local clubs. It is named for the Knightons, whose efforts began the North American Mycological Association in 1967.

This year's winner should serve as a model for what all clubs should try to find and develop—a person who involves herself in as many club activities as she can, contributing her skills as a speaker, instructor, walk leader, mushroom identifier, photographer, artist, chef, administrator, business person, and club historian.

In a club such as hers, as rich as it is in enthusiastic volunteers, standing out among so high a level of accomplishment in the general membership is an accomplishment in itself. In such clubs, enthusiasm is contagious, and the members, by merely doing whatever needs to be done, distinguish themselves by the high quality of their service.

And this year, no one has distinguished herself more, nor is more deserving of the Harry and Elsie Knighton Service Award, than the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club's JOYCE GROSS.

You may access the informative website of the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club either through the NAMA website or directly at www.wpamushroomclub.org.

***Thanks!*** NAMA members extend many thanks to organizers David and Patricia Lewis for showing us a wonderful time in the heart of Cajun country.

—*Allison Walker (Grad. RA, Marine Mycology, Dept. of Coastal Sciences, Univ. of Southern Mississippi) & Heinz Albert Gaylord (GSMS)*

AN UPDATE FROM MICHAEL BEUG, EDITOR OF

# *McIlvainea*

The eight inches of holiday-season snow have largely melted, the garden has long since been put to bed, I have finished cracking the walnut and hazelnut crop, and the grapes are all crushed and are in the cellar fermenting, with the promise of some fine wines in the months and years to come. Looking out from my deck, over the lower meadow and across my woods, I can see Mount Hood between the showers much as it appeared in early December when I declared the fall 2009 mushroom season at an end here in the Columbia River Gorge (see Fig. 1).

As always, the year contained mushroom surprises. I had diligently hunted my woods for Chanterelles, and yet the months passed with no success, though other areas nearby

Figure 1. Mt. Hood from Oak Hill Vineyard

yielded all that I needed to eat. Then at Thanksgiving I found a cluster of *Cantharellus cascadensis* Dunham, O'Dell and R. Molina (Fig. 2). Some specimens from this patch are large enough that a single mushroom can make more than one meal, and these were not disappointing. The surprise was that they had shown up so late (for our area). Then the next week a mile down the hill I found shopping bags amount of fresh, prime *Cantharellus formosus* and *Cantharellus subalbidus*—at a time of year when the Chanterelles are normally limp, unappetizing mush.

Two days later the snow and cold arrived, but the mushroom surprises were not quite over. Walking through the snow, I spotted what I thought

Figure 2. *Cantharellus cascadensis.*

*Continued on page 6*

**McIlvainea**, cont. from page 5

was *Ganoderma oregonense* Murrill growing on a *Quercus garryana,* Oregon White Oak—but *Ganoderma oregonense* is found on conifers. What I had seen was my first ever western specimen of *Ganoderma lucidum* (Curtis:Fr.) Karst.

On another walk last week after many days of temperatures hovering around 8° F, I observed good-sized mushrooms on the underside of a large branch. It was fresh *Panellus serotinus* (Schrad.) Kuehner and they were not frozen! I have long wondered how it is that sometimes you can find a group of mushrooms in prime condition when all around everything is frozen. Several years ago, I was out walking early in the morning when the waterfalls of the Columbia River Gorge were masses of icicles, and there before me were two huge buttons of *Boletus edulis* Bull. I picked them expecting them to be frozen solid like all the other mushrooms nearby, but they were warm, not a bit frozen. If anyone knows the answer to how some mushrooms stay warm to the touch in freezing weather, I would love to have you write an article for *McIlvainea*. Or maybe you have some other interesting mycological story to tell?

*McIlvainea* is now online, and I am preparing to post the first article for 2010, *McIlvainea* Vol. 19. So far one submission has come in and should be available online shortly. The article, by Dr. Todd W. Osmundson and is entitled "Phylogeny, Natural Selection and the State of Mushroom Classification." The reviewers were excited about the paper, and I hope that you will find it as useful as I did. The following abstract was provided by Dr. Osmundson:

Mushroom classification is currently undergoing a shift of historic proportions as analyses of DNA sequence data are revealing the need for an extensive overhaul of the Friesian classification system. In some cases the resulting rearrangements represent the progression of science aided by new types of data; in others, they may be the remedy to subjective classifications based on scant evidence. The use of traits for which a role for natural selection can be posited and the subjugation of comparative morphology to molecular analyses have been recommended as remedies to the latter problem. The present article briefly discusses some of the goals and methods of phylogenetic classification, draws a distinction between unscientific and subjective classification, outlines some of the pitfalls of eco-evolutionary hypotheses in the context of phylogenetic classification, examines the application of comparative morphology in developing these classifications, and finally considers the questions of whether the current system of mushroom classification is fundamentally broken and whether DNA studies offer the solution to the problem of unstable classifications and the frequent name changes that follow from them.

Other articles that you can expect to see in *McIlvainea* this year are the annual toxicology report and stories about allergic reactions to edible mushrooms. If you have any poisoning reports or incidents of adverse reactions to edible species, please send me your stories soon. To view *McIlvainea* go to http://namyco.org/publications/mcil_journal.html. If you would like to submit an article for *McIlvainea,* see instructions for authors at http://namyco.org/images/publications/12_submissions.pdf. If you are willing to be a reviewer for *McIlvainea* or have suggestions about articles that you would like to see in *McIlvainea,* feel free to contact me at beugm@evergreen.edu or by mail: Michael Beug, P.O. Box 116, Husum, WA 98623. Have a good year, and get those requests and stories on their way to me.

[*Photos in this article were taken by Michael Beug.*]

Foray 2009 Photos by Anna Gerenday and Mathew Foltz. Page 7, clockwise from bottom: David Lewis, Foray organizer, and others in the field; Adele Metha & Patrick Leacock "Vouchering"; Payton Wilson; group comprising most of the presenters; Bayou Teche. Center: Trustees Patrice Benson & Tom Volk under a Live Oak. Page 1: Lake Martin. Page 4: Bayou Teche. Page 6: Foray Mycologist Clark Ovrebo discusses Foray finds.

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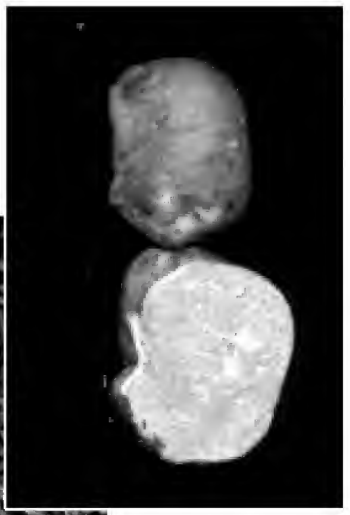
# MUSHROOM OF THE MONTH



During the recent NAMA Foray in Lafayette, Drs. Cathie Amie and Jean Lodge and Noah Siegel noticed what looked like a lobed puffball on the ground. It was a ***Zelleromyces cinnabarinus***—the first "Z" in NAMA's Voucher Program!

Zelleromyces are closely related to Lactarius, but have lost the ability to forcefully discharge spores and are reliant on animals eating them for spore dispersal.

*Photos courtesy of Dr. Walt Sundberg*